



Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting Goes Virtual In 2020

With increased COVID-19 transmission in Johnson County, the annual **Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony** will be held virtually this year. Check out the City's Facebook page and website to see the tree lighting on December 4th.

Don't forget to vote in the **Christmas Tree Decorating Contest** starting December 1. Voting will be done in person at the Greenspace as well as on Facebook. We'll announce the winners on Monday, December 7.



Nominate yourself or your neighbors for the annual **Holiday Home Decorating Contest**. The residents of the winning houses will be notified and receive a cash prize, a special yard sign and they'll be invited to a City Council meeting to be recognized.

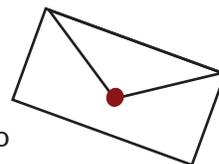
Nominate the best lit homes in town by Wednesday, December 9 by calling City Hall at 913.893.6231 or by going to edgertonks.org/holidays. Winners will be notified on Friday, December 18.

If you are planning a family get together during the holidays, please continue to follow CDC guidelines to reduce the risk of COVID-19. You can find the guidelines at edgertonks.org/coronavirusupdates.

USPS: Letters to Santa

The Edgerton Post Office is helping out Santa this year! During business hours, letters to Santa can be dropped off inside in the green mailbox. After business hours, please slide your letters under the glass door and they'll take care of the rest. You can also just address your letter to Santa and put it in your mailbox without a stamp and the mail carrier will deliver it for you.

All letters must be received by December 20 to ensure that each child receives a response. Don't forget to put your address on the letter so that Santa can write back!



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Important Upcoming Meetings:

- City Council Meeting:
Thursday, December 10
- City Council Meeting-CANCELED:
Thursday, December 24

Are you an Edgert?

Each month we'll share interesting and fun facts about Edgerton. If you have a surprising fact to share about living in Edgerton or about the City's history, submit it to kbanks@edgertonks.org and it may be featured in an upcoming newsletter.

Question:

Do you know the history of the Edgerton Post Office?

Answer on back.

City Hall will be CLOSED

Thursday and Friday, December 24-25 for Christmas

and Friday, January 1 for New Year's Day.

From Your Friends at FD #1: Put a Freeze on Winter Holiday Fires



As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart. Holiday decorations can increase your risk for a home fire.

More than half of the home decoration fires in December are started by candles. The top three days for home candle fires are Christmas Day, New Year's Day and New Year's Eve.

Make sure your tree is at least three feet away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents. Also, make sure your tree does not block exits. Remember to get rid of your tree after Christmas or when it is dry.

Johnson County Sheriff's Office: Staying Safe While Holiday Shopping



E-commerce spending is set to skyrocket this holiday season as many customers continue to limit their time in physical stores among the COVID-19 pandemic. According to Adobe Analytics Holiday Forecast 2020, it is estimated that U.S. holiday online sales will total \$189 billion, up 33% over last year's

holiday season. It is easy to see that millions of Americans are going to opt for online shopping this holiday season versus going out, even when fully masked and gloved, and risking potential COVID-19 exposure.

According to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3), the number one cybercrime of 2019 in half of the 50 states was related to online shopping: non-payment for or non-delivery of goods purchased.

Here are some basic safety tips and guidelines that will allow you to shop for that perfect gift with confidence.

1. Use familiar websites – Start at a trusted site. Beware of misspellings or sites using a different top-level domain (.net instead of .com, for example).
2. Look for the lock – Never buy anything online using your credit card from a site that doesn't have SSL (secure sockets layer) encryption installed. You'll know if a site has SSL because the URL for the site will start with HTTPS instead of just HTTP. You will also see an icon of a locked padlock next to the URL.
3. Create strong passwords – Change your password regularly and ensure you are creating strong passwords.
4. Check bank and credit card statements regularly – Don't wait for your bill to come at the end of the month, go online regularly to view electronic statements. Look for any fraudulent charges. If you see something wrong, address the matter quickly.

Edgerton Food Pantry



The Edgerton Community Food Pantry will be open from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, December 19. Everyone is asked to enter the gravel parking lot off of 4th street and wait to be directed to turn west onto Hulett. Stop in front of the pantry going west and volunteers will load items into the vehicle.

The food pantry is available to everyone in the USD 231 school district. It's open every third Saturday of the month at 308 E Hulett, at the corner of 4th and Hulett. Donations can be made at City Hall during normal business hours.

A: Edgepert Answer

A United States post office was established here on July 14, 1871. The post office has been located in several places in Edgerton during its' tenure. For many years, the mail would be delivered and picked up by train. Someone on the train would throw the bags of mail off the train near the Edgerton Depot, which was located at the Nelson Street crossing. Then someone from the post office would go and pick up the bags of mail (after they had rolled several times and often a great distance), and put the bags on a cart and trudge up the hill to the post office downtown. And the train would also pick up the outgoing mail at the depot. There was a long mechanical arm that held the bags of mail on a hook, and as the train passed by the depot, a person on the train would release them from the hook, and pull the mailbags into the train as it passed by.

For many years, the Edgerton Post Office was located in the northeast corner of the building that is now the Edgerton Bank of Knowledge. But, eventually, a new post office building opened, dedicated on October 21, 1961. It was located at the northwest corner of Fourth and Nelson Streets, where it still stands today. The postmaster at the time was Carl Rebman, who served as Edgerton postmaster from October 1, 1953, until his retirement on July 4, 1975. Mr. Rebman still remains the longest tenured postmaster in Edgerton history.